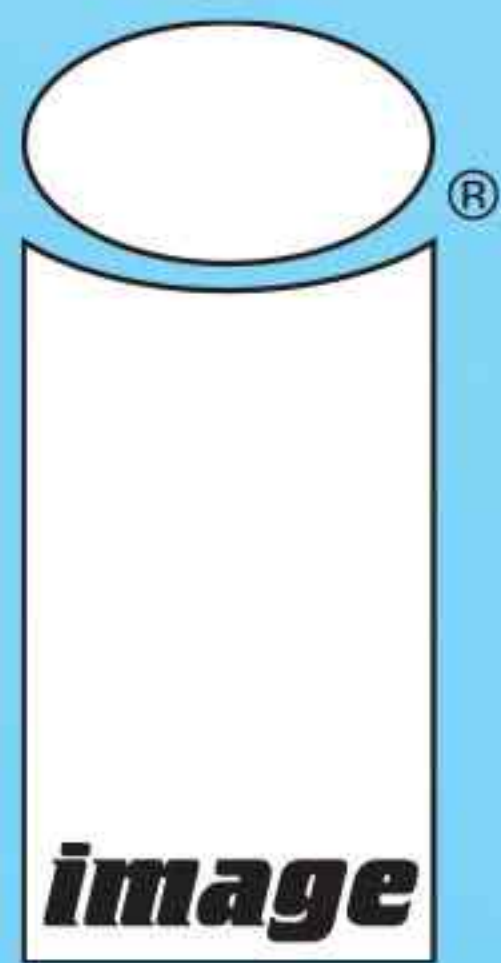


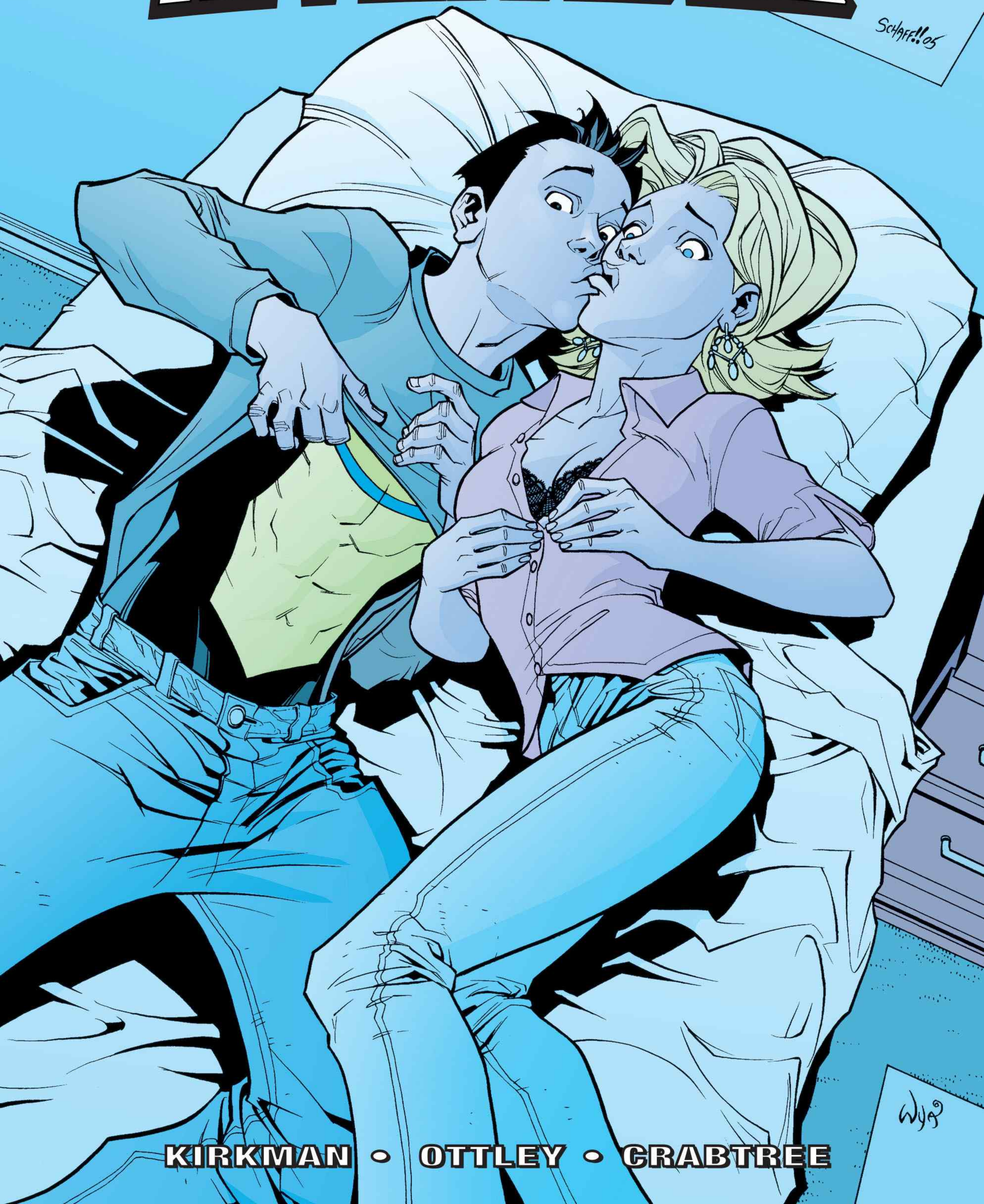


PROBABLY THE BEST SUPERHERO
COMIC BOOK IN THE UNIVERSE

22

INVINCIBLE™

Schaff!!05



Wys

KIRKMAN • OTTLEY • GRABTREE

image® COMICS PRESENTS

INVINCIBLE™

ROBERT KIRKMAN
WRITER

RYAN OTTLEY
PENCILER & INKER

BILL CRABTREE
COLORIST

RUS WOOTON
LETTERER

CREATED BY ROBERT KIRKMAN & CORY WALKER



IMAGE COMICS, INC.

Erik Larsen - Publisher

Todd McFarlane - President

Marc Silvestri - CEO

Jim Valentino - Vice-President

Eric Stephenson - Executive Director

Missie Miranda - Controller

Brett Evans - Production Manager

B. Clay Moore - PR & Marketing Coordinator

Allen Hui - Production Artist

Joe Keatinge - Traffic Manager

Mia MacHatton - Administrative Assistant

www.imagecomics.com

INVINCIBLE Vol. 1 #22. April 2005. First Printing. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 1942 University Ave. Suite 305, Berkeley, CA 94704. Image and its logos are ® and © 2005 Image Comics, Inc. All Rights Reserved. INVINCIBLE is ™ and © 2005 Robert Kirkman and Cory Walker. All Rights Reserved. The characters, events and stories in this publication are entirely fictional. No portion of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder except for artwork used for review purposes.

PRINTED IN CANADA



MAN--THAT WAS A **GREAT** FLICK. IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I SAW A MOVIE THAT **SWEET!** THANKS FOR INVITING ME OUT TO THIS, FELLAS.

DON'T MENTION IT, RICK. WE DON'T REALLY KNOW ALL THAT MANY PEOPLE HERE.

SERIOUSLY, THOUGH. MY **ROOMMATE** IS A REAL **JERK**. HE'S ALWAYS NAGGING ME ABOUT HOW MUCH I **SLEEP**. IT'S REALLY CRAPPY LIVING WITH THE GUY--HE'S WORSE THAN MY **FATHER**.



IT'S GOOD TO GET AWAY FROM HIM.

YOU KEEP SLEEPING AS MUCH AS YOU DO, AND WE'LL GRADUATE BEFORE YOU.



YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT. THANKS FOR THE ADVICE, **BILLY**.



VERY.

FUNNY.



DID YOU FORGET WHO **PROVE?**

OH, LIGHTEN UP, WILLIAM. HE'S ONLY MESSING WITH YOU.



DON'T BE SO--



OH, **CRUD!** LOOK AT THE TIME! I GOTTA GO GUYS. I'M SUPPOSED TO BE SOMEWHERE.

DO WE NEED TO DRIVE YOU?

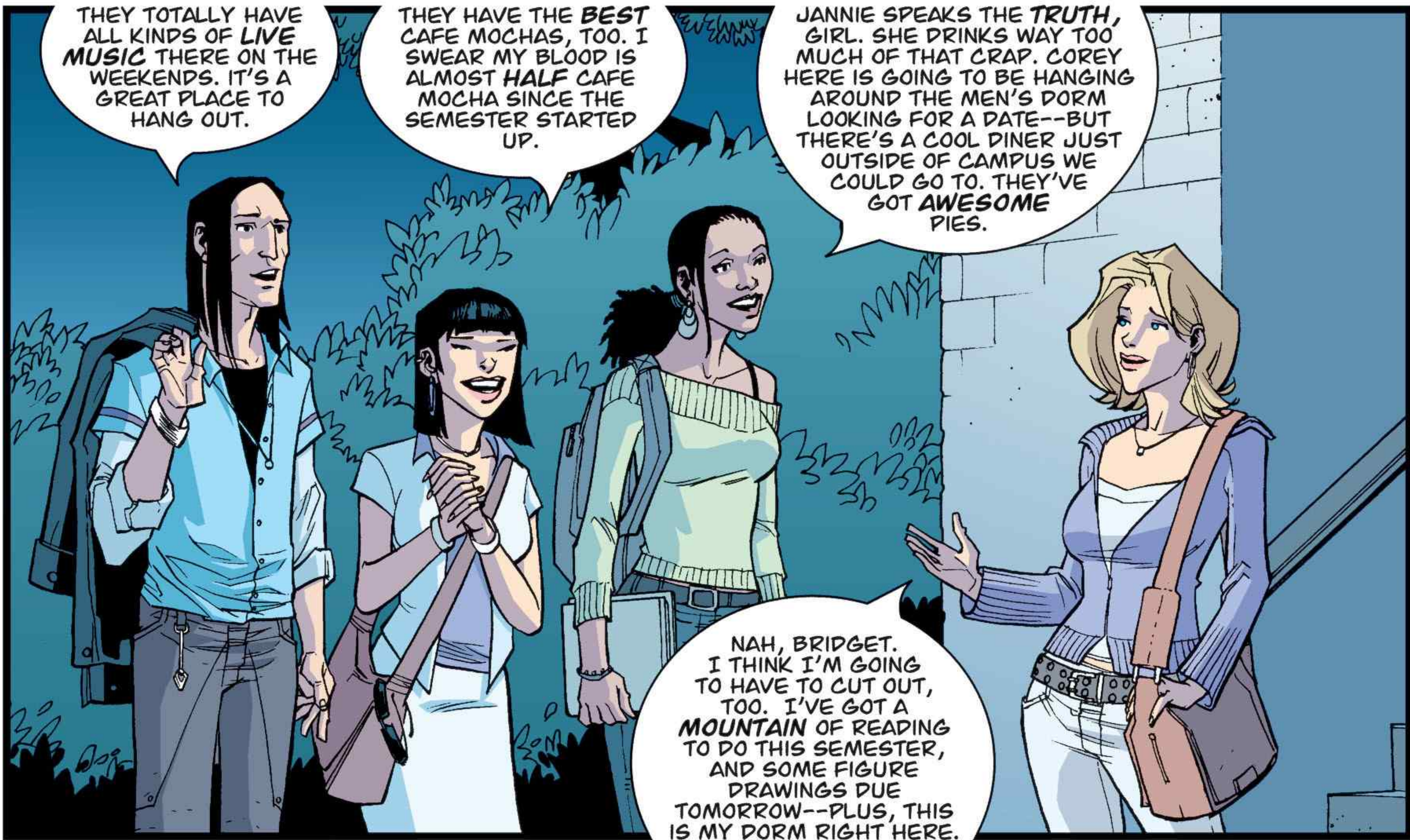
NO! I CAN WALK.

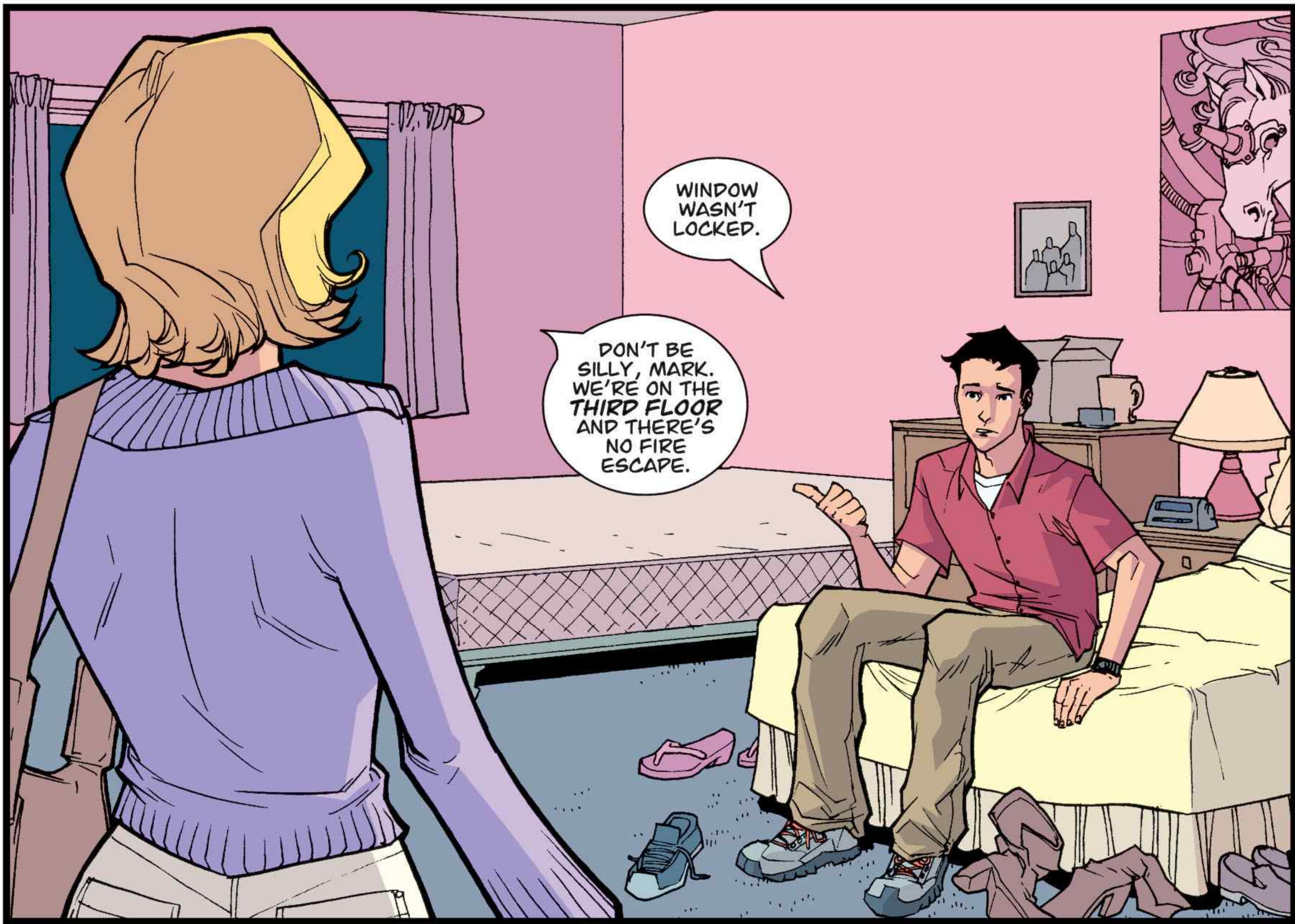


DOES HE ALWAYS WALK?

IT CERTAINLY **SEEMS** THAT WAY, DOESN'T IT?







WINDOW WASN'T LOCKED.

DON'T BE SILLY, MARK. WE'RE ON THE THIRD FLOOR AND THERE'S NO FIRE ESCAPE.



THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD HAVE COME IN THE WINDOW.



THAT'S ACTUALLY WHAT I CAME TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT... KINDA... MORE OR LESS.



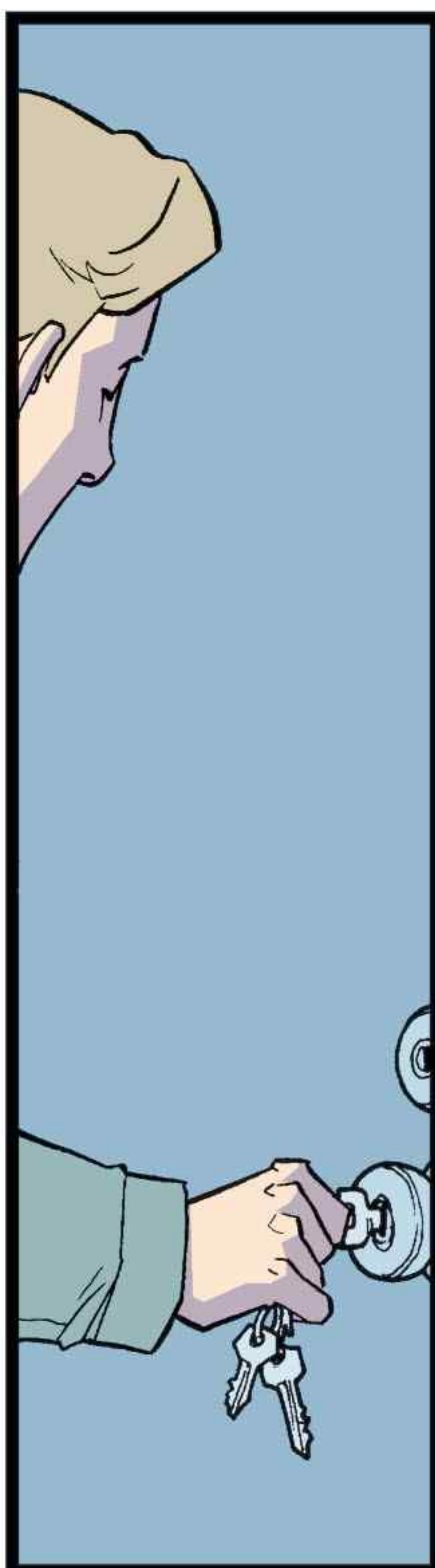
YOU SEE, UH... I KNOW YOU'RE STILL PISSED AT ME FOR ABANDONING YOU BACK AT MY CAMPUS WHEN THAT MONSTER ATTACKED BUT--

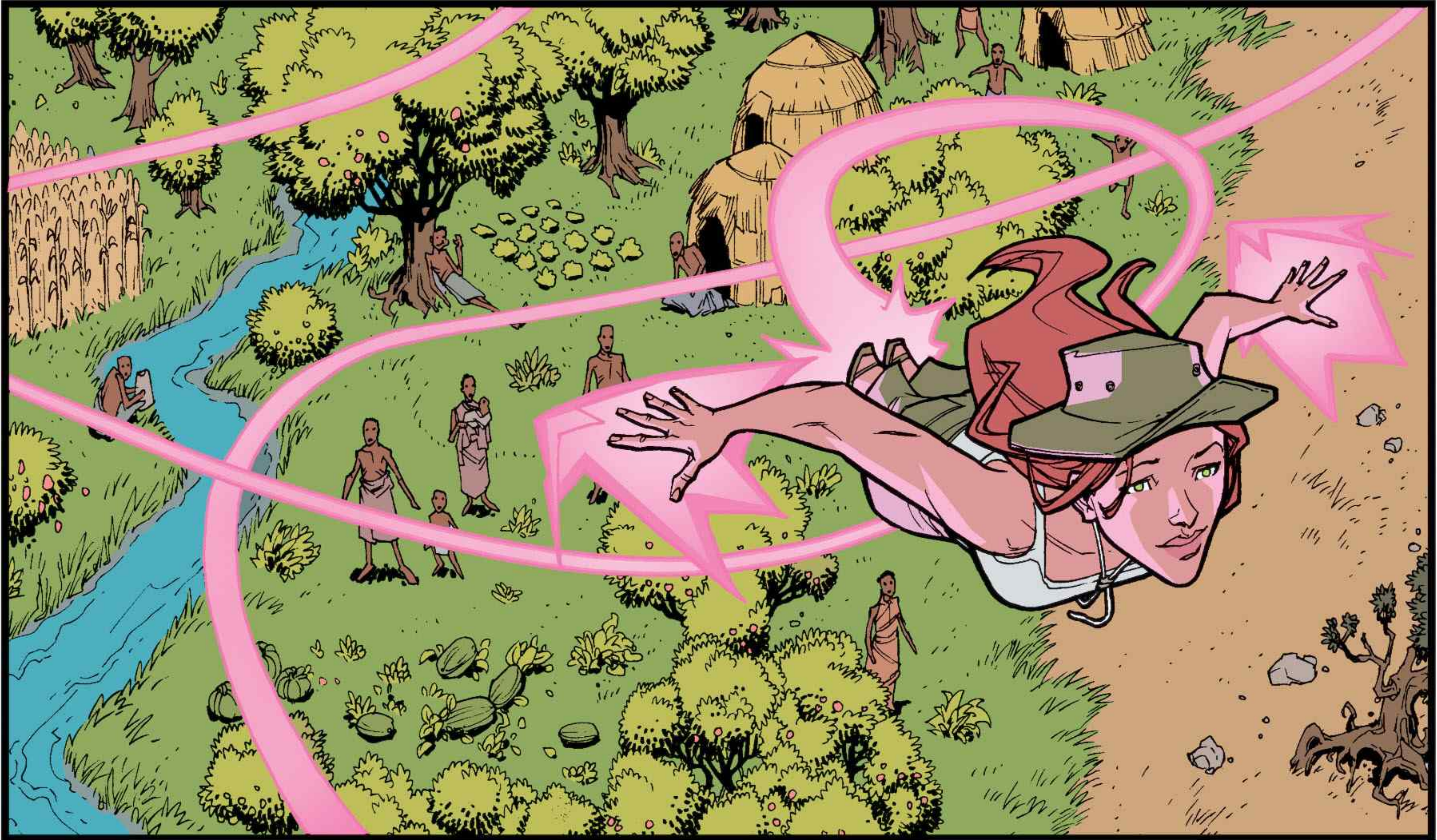
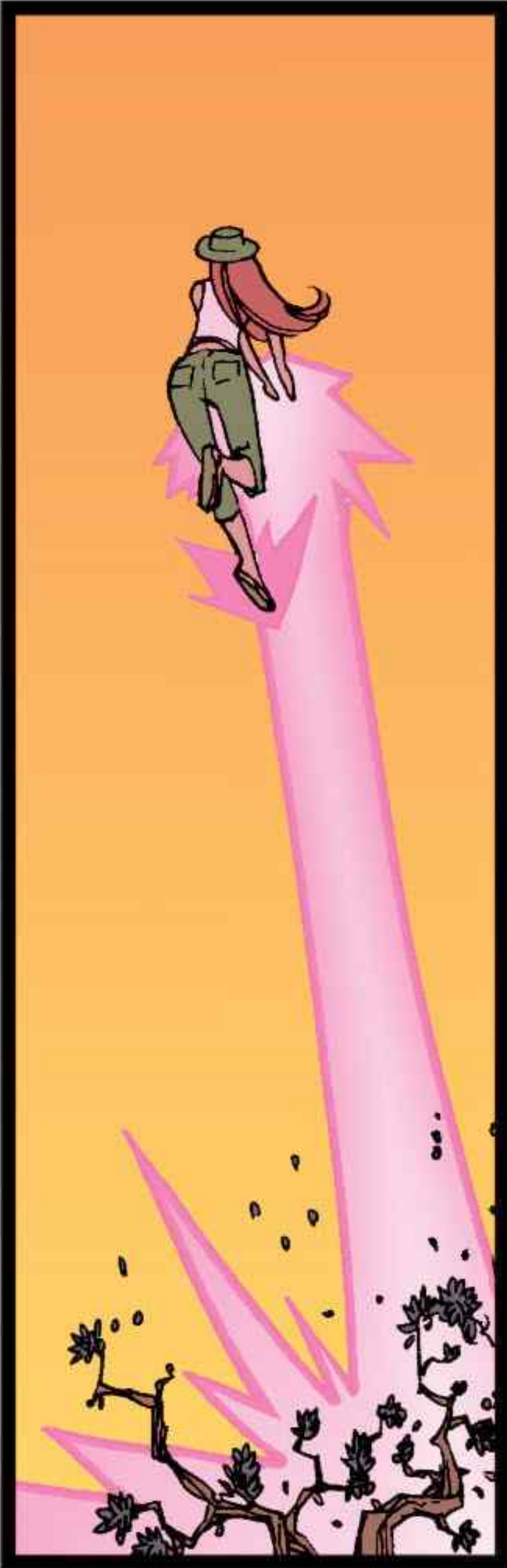
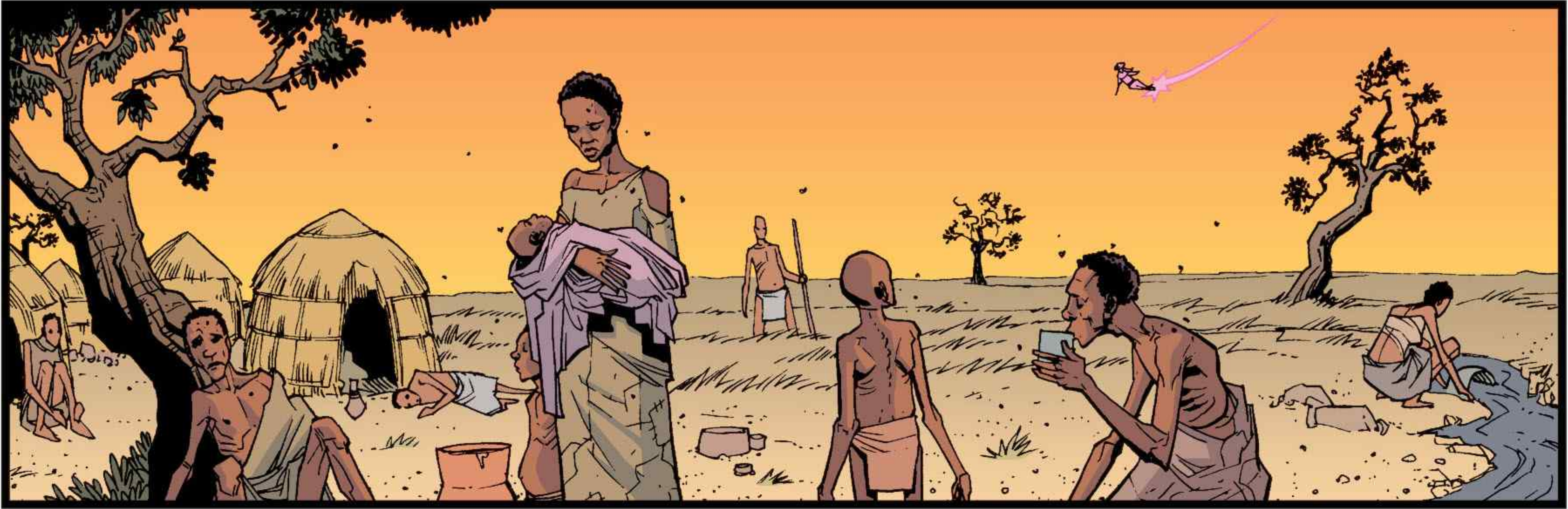


YOU SEE--THE THING IS--

OKAY KIDDO-- SUIT UP. YOU'RE NEEDED.









IT IS TIME, ANGSTROM LEVY.

WE HAVE EVERYTHING WE NEED. ALL THE MACHINES ACROSS THE DOZEN WORLDS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. I HAVE CONSULTED WITH THE OTHERS BROUGHT IN AFTER YESTERDAY'S SETBACK AND WE'RE ALL READY TO GO. THANKS FOR CONTACTING THEM FOR US, BY THE WAY. THEY'VE BEEN A HUGE HELP.

IF YOU CAN HAVE ALL YOUR DUPLICATES HERE TOMORROW MORNING--WE'LL COMPLETE THE PROCESS TOMORROW. WE COULD BE DONE BY LUNCH-TIME. THIS TIME FOR SURE.

BY THIS TIME TOMORROW, ALL THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR DIMENSIONS WILL BE YOURS--AND YOU'LL FINALLY BE ABLE TO EXPLORE THE MULTIVERSE WITHOUT HAVING TO RISK ENTERING A WORLD TOO HARSH TO SURVIVE IN.

I TAKE IT YOU ARE PLEASED?







THEN HIS DAD DIED.



IT'S NOT WHAT YOU *THINK*-- I'M NOT COMPLAINING ABOUT *THAT*. THAT WOULD BE A HORRIBLE THING TO DO. IT HAPPENED A FEW MONTHS BACK. HE WAS OUT OF TOWN FOR A FEW WEEKS, AND THEN HE CAME BACK.



HE WAS *UPSET*, I GAVE HIM HIS SPACE AND AFTER A WEEK OR SO, WE STARTED SEEING EACH OTHER AGAIN.

THINGS WERE STILL *GOOD*.



THEN--THINGS *CHANGED*. HE, I DON'T KNOW, STARTED BEING *LATE* ALL THE TIME. HE ALWAYS SEEMED LIKE HE WAS... PREOCCUPIED.

HE SKIPPED CLASS A LOT TOWARDS THE END OF OUR SENIOR YEAR. HE'D DISAPPEAR FOR *HOURS* AT A TIME.

HE HAD THIS *BEEPER* ALL OF A SUDDEN, AND WAS ALWAYS GETTING CALLED AWAY.



DRUGS?



THAT'S WHAT I *THOUGHT* IT WAS. IT MADE *SENSE* WHEN I THOUGHT ABOUT IT.



HIS DAD *DIED*. IT WAS JUST HIM AND HIS MOM. I COULD SEE THEY NEEDED AN EXTRA INCOME. HIS DAD WAS AN AUTHOR, AND SALES PICKED UP WHEN HE DIED, BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH OF THAT MONEY HE GOT.



IF HE WAS HELPING HIS MOM MAKE ENDS MEET-- HOW COULD I FAULT HIM FOR IT? BUT IT MADE ME *WORRY*. WHO HE WAS DEALING WITH NOW-- HOW DANGEROUS IT WAS.



I MEAN--I DON'T REALLY *KNOW* ANYTHING. EVERYTHING I KNOW ABOUT *DRUGS* I LEARNED FROM MOVIES SO I DOUBT I'M AN EXPERT.



DON'T LOOK AT ME--THAT'S *RACIST*.

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING *EITHER*. MY PARENTS ARE *DOCTORS*. YOU DIDN'T CALL THE BLACK GIRL TO GET *DRUG INFO* DID YOU?



NO--NO! IT'S NOT THAT AT ALL! I DIDN'T CALL YOU TO TALK ABOUT *THAT*. I DON'T KNOW THAT HE WAS EVER SELLING *DRUGS*... I DON'T KNOW *WHAT'S* GOING ON.



I DON'T KNOW *ANYTHING* ANYMORE.



I'M *THIRSTY*. YOU WANT TO GO TO THAT *DINER* I TOLD YOU ABOUT?



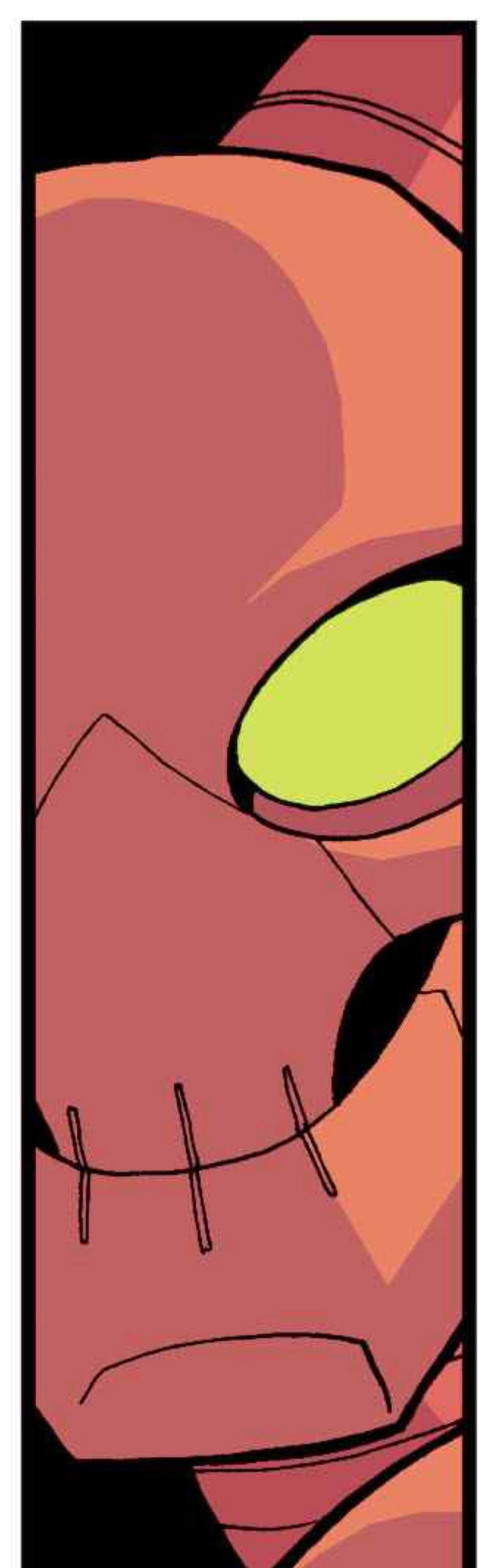
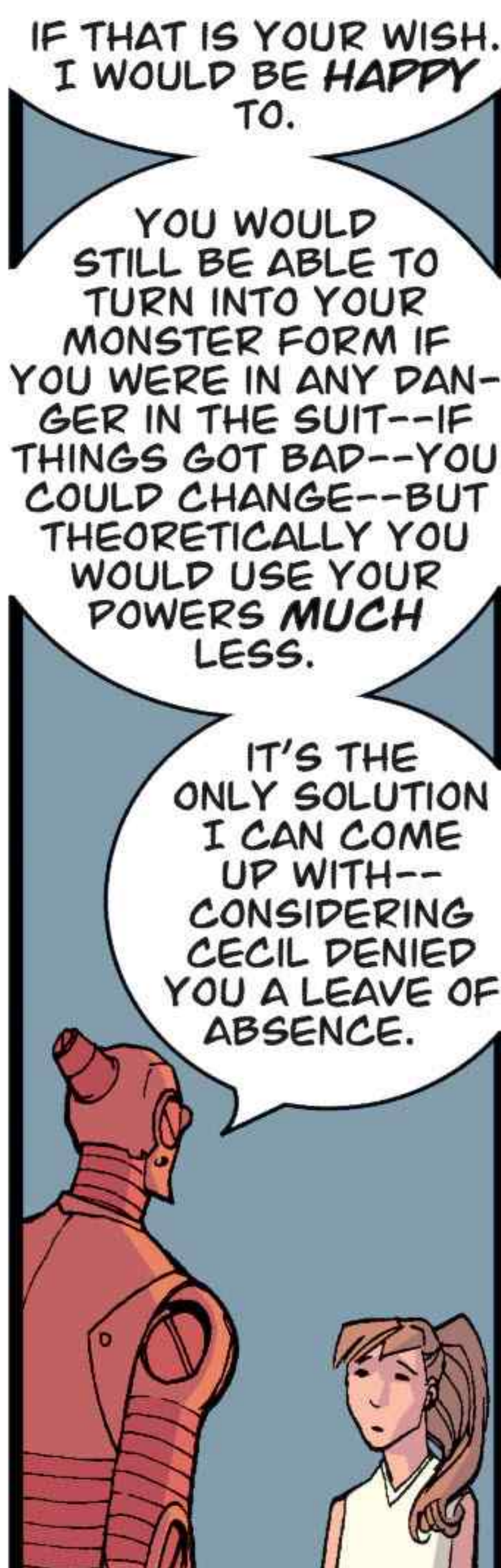
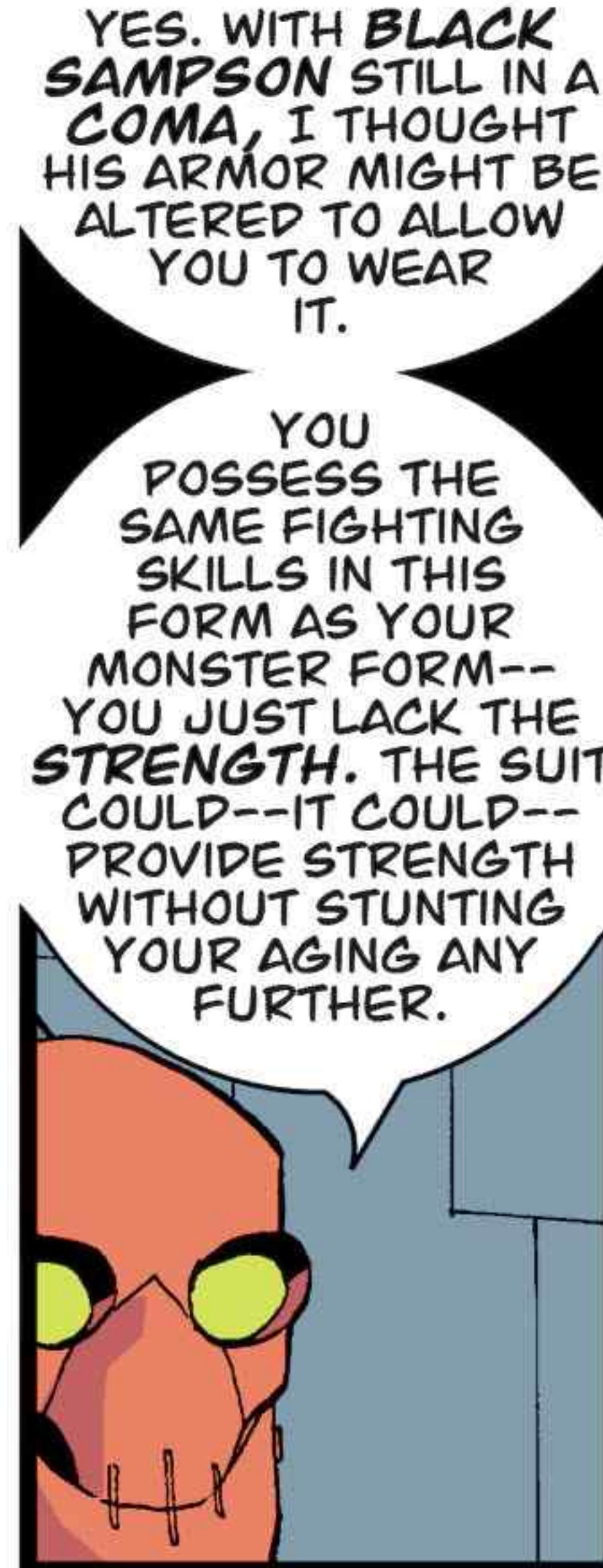
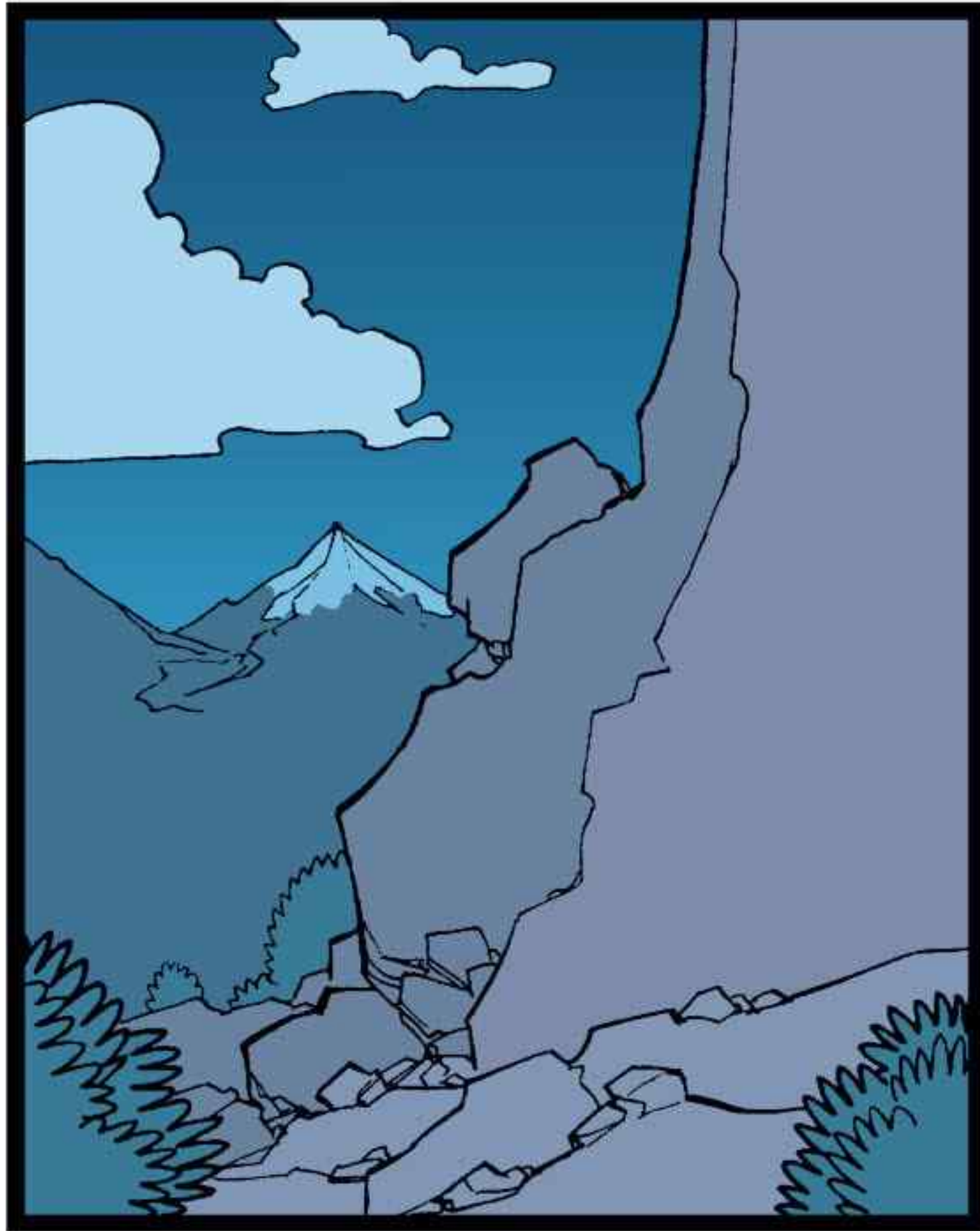
SURE.

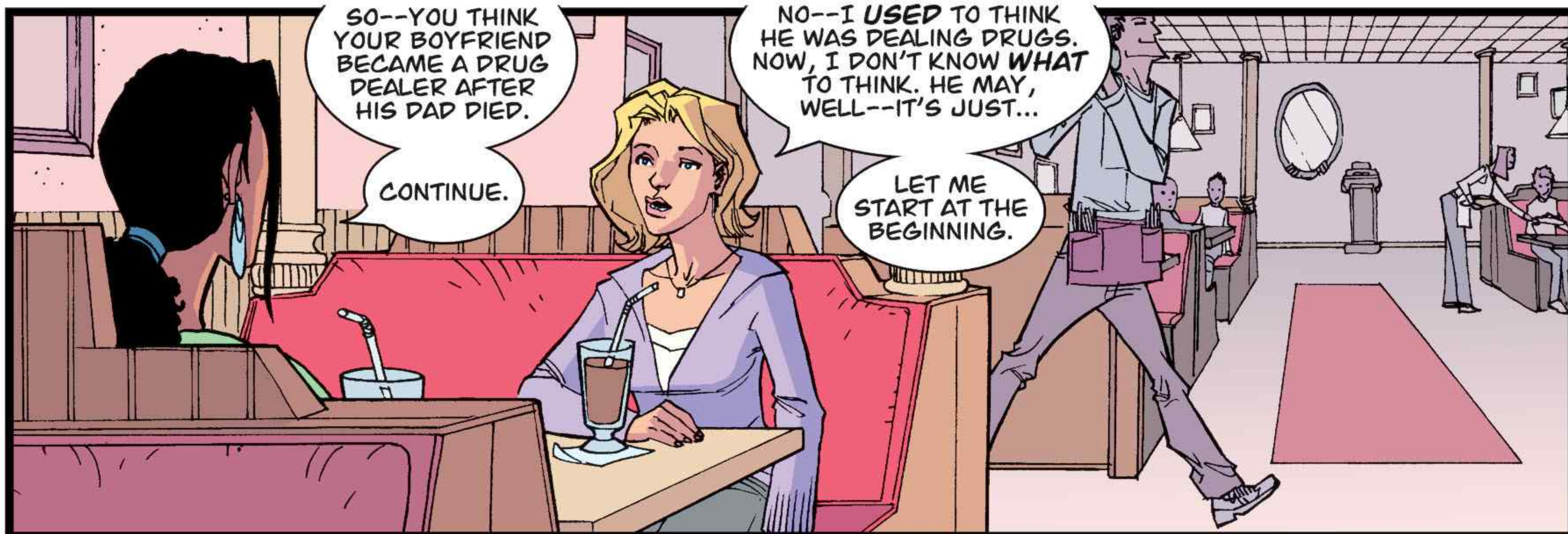


I DON'T CARE WHERE I WORK. I JUST--I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO. WITH MARK AWAY AT SCHOOL I'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO.

THE HOUSE IS EMPTY. I SWEAR IF I DIDN'T HAVE YOU AND CLAIRE TO TALK TO I'D GO CRAZY.







SO--YOU THINK YOUR BOYFRIEND BECAME A DRUG DEALER AFTER HIS DAD DIED.

CONTINUE.

NO--I **USED** TO THINK HE WAS DEALING DRUGS. NOW, I DON'T KNOW **WHAT** TO THINK. HE MAY, WELL--IT'S JUST...

LET ME START AT THE BEGINNING.

SEE, HIS SEMESTER STARTED **BEFORE** MINE. I VISITED HIM ON CAMPUS ON HIS FIRST DAY. THIS **MONSTER** ATTACKED THE STUDENTS.

IT WAS TEARING THE PLACE UP, PEOPLE WERE RUNNING AROUND IN EVERY DIRECTION TRYING TO GET AWAY. THEN, I TURN AROUND--AND MARK'S **GONE**.

NEXT THING I KNOW, THE MONSTER IS ABOUT TO ATTACK ME. IT WOULD HAVE **TOO**, IF THIS SUPERHERO HADN'T SWOOPED IN AND **SAVED** ME AT THE LAST MINUTE.

THEN--AFTER THE **SUPERHERO** FLIES OFF WITH THE MONSTER AND EVERYONE IS **SAFE**... MARK COMES RUNNING UP--TELLING ME HOW **WORRIED** HE WAS.

THE JERK.

MAYBE HE'S THE SUPERHERO.



OKAY, YOU'RE RIGHT--IT'S **STUPID**. NEVER MIND.

CARRY ON.

NO--THAT'S **NOT** STUPID. I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU BECAUSE HE SHOWED UP AT MY DORM ROOM TONIGHT AFTER YOU GUYS DROPPED ME OFF.

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE APOLOGY--HE STARTED TALKING TO HIMSELF--TOUCHED HIS **EAR**--AND THEN JUMPED OUT OF THE WINDOW.

I THOUGHT HE WAS AN **ALIEN**.

HE SAID HE CAME IN THE WINDOW AND I DON'T HAVE A FIRE ESCAPE.

I LOOKED OUT THE WINDOW AND HE WAS **GONE**. JUST GONE.





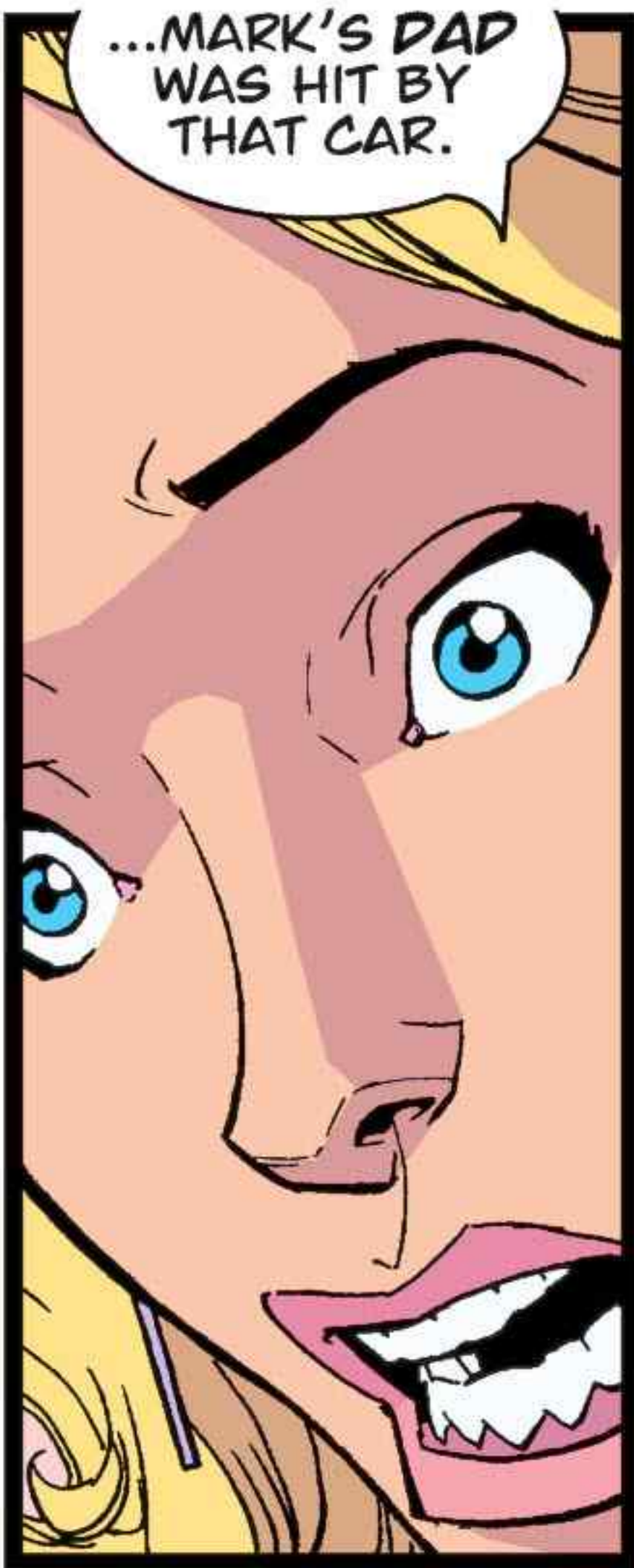
OUT THE WINDOW?
TALKING TO
HIMSELF?

YEAH--
HE'S A
SUPER-
HERO.



NO--HE CAN'T BE.
THE ONE THAT SAVED
ME WAS THAT KID--
INVINCIBLE.
THE NEW ONE. HE HAD
THAT BIG FIGHT WITH
HIS EVIL SUPERHERO
DAD. REMEMBER?
IT WAS ON THE
NEWS.

IT
HAPPENED
RIGHT AROUND
THE TIME THAT--



...MARK'S DAD
WAS HIT BY
THAT CAR.



HM--
MUST NOT
BE HIM THEN.
**NEXT
THEORY.**



NO, **LISTEN...** I
THINK **INVINCIBLE**
WAS THE SUPER-
HERO WHO CAUGHT
OUR **PHYSICS**
TEACHER WHEN
HE WAS TURNING
OUR CLASSMATES
INTO HUMAN
BOMBS.



THAT'S JUST
TOO MUCH
OF A
COINCIDENCE.

MARK'S
HIGH SCHOOL--
MARK'S
COLLEGE.



PHYSICS TEACHER,
HUH? MY MIDDLE
SCHOOL **GYM**
TEACHER WAS THE
KINETIC KILLER--
HE WAS PRETTY
SMALL TIME
THOUGH.



I'M **SERIOUS**--
I THINK MY
BOYFRIEND IS A
SUPERHERO. IT
ALL MAKES SO
MUCH **SENSE**
NOW.



YOU'RE **KIDDING**,
RIGHT? NO WAY
YOUR BOYFRIEND'S A
SUPERHERO.
YOU'RE NOT THAT
LUCKY. I WAS
JOKING--I
THOUGHT YOU
WERE TOO.

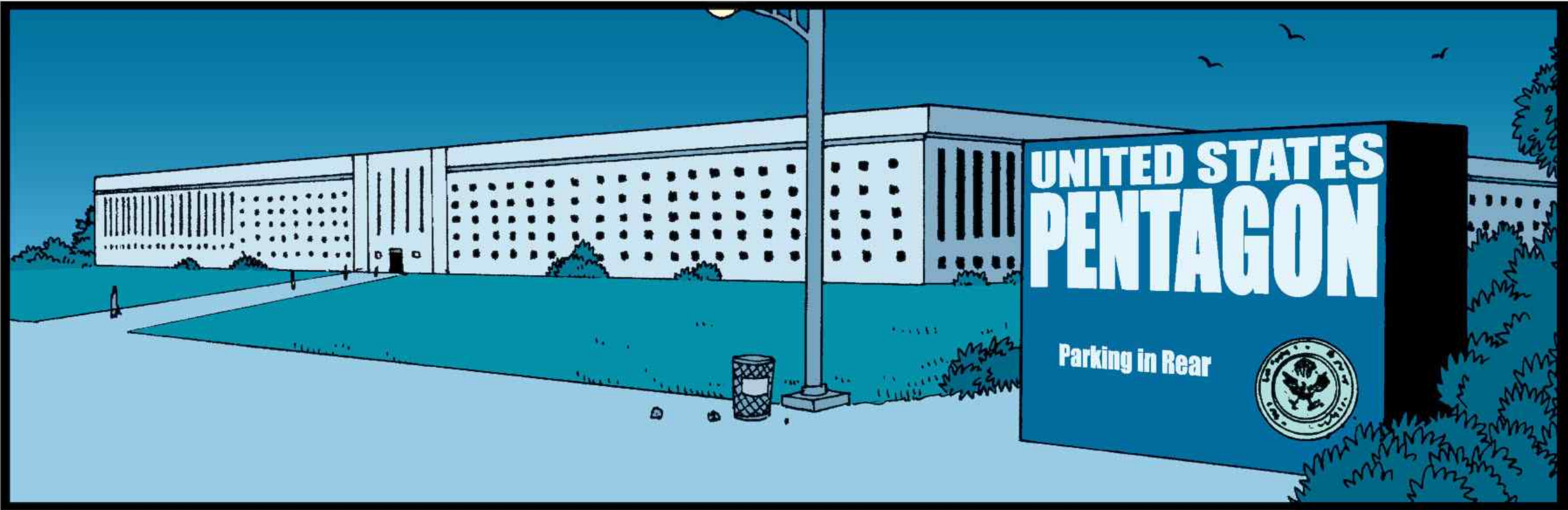


RIGHT... I
WAS **TOTALLY**
KIDDING. LISTEN,
I'M GOING TO
GO. I GOTTA--
IT'S LATE--
HOMEWORK
AND ALL.

I'LL
SEE YOU
IN
CLASS.



'KAY.
LATER.



HOW GOES IT?

HOW GOES WHAT, SIR?

ARE YOU NOT THE ONE MONITORING THE MAULER TWINS?



YEAH-- OH, YEAH. THAT'S ME.



THEN-- HOW GOES IT?



UM--NO CHANGE WHATSOEVER, SIR. THEY'VE LEFT AND COME BACK BUT NO ACTUAL ACTIVITY AS NEAR AS I CAN TELL... SIR.

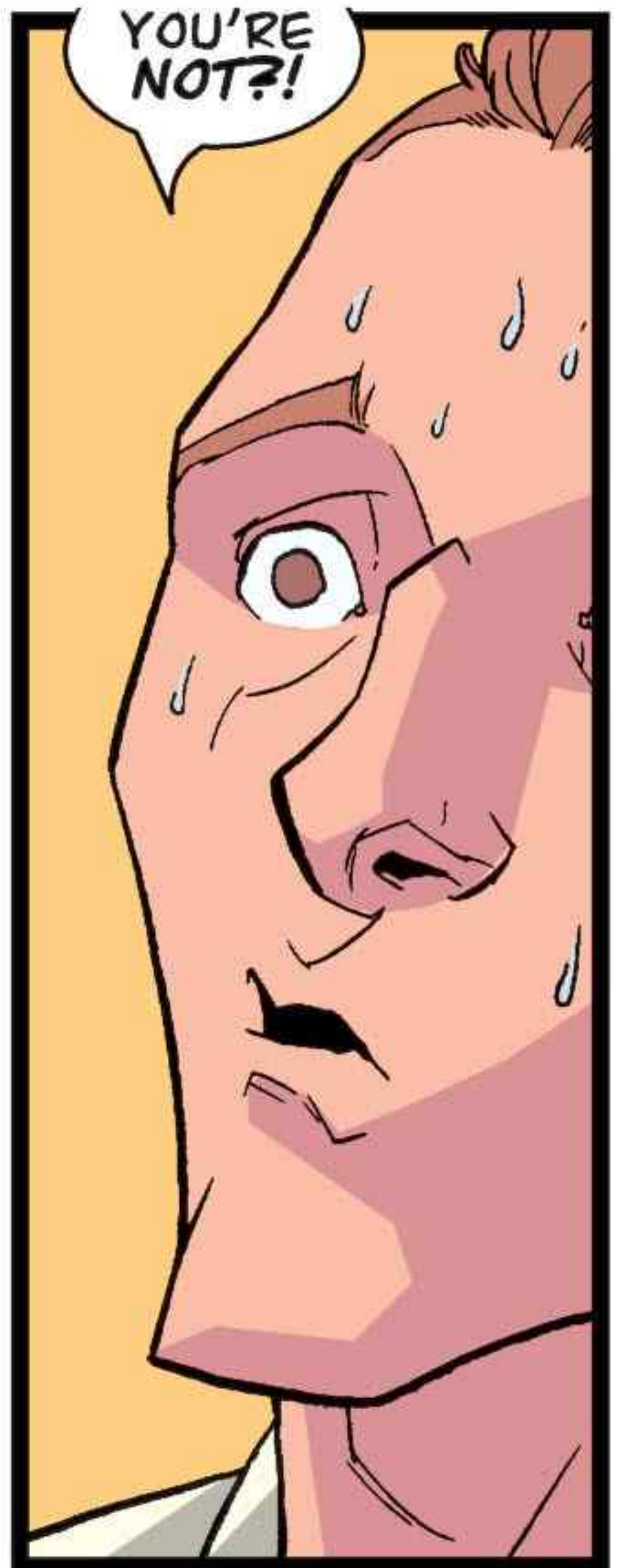
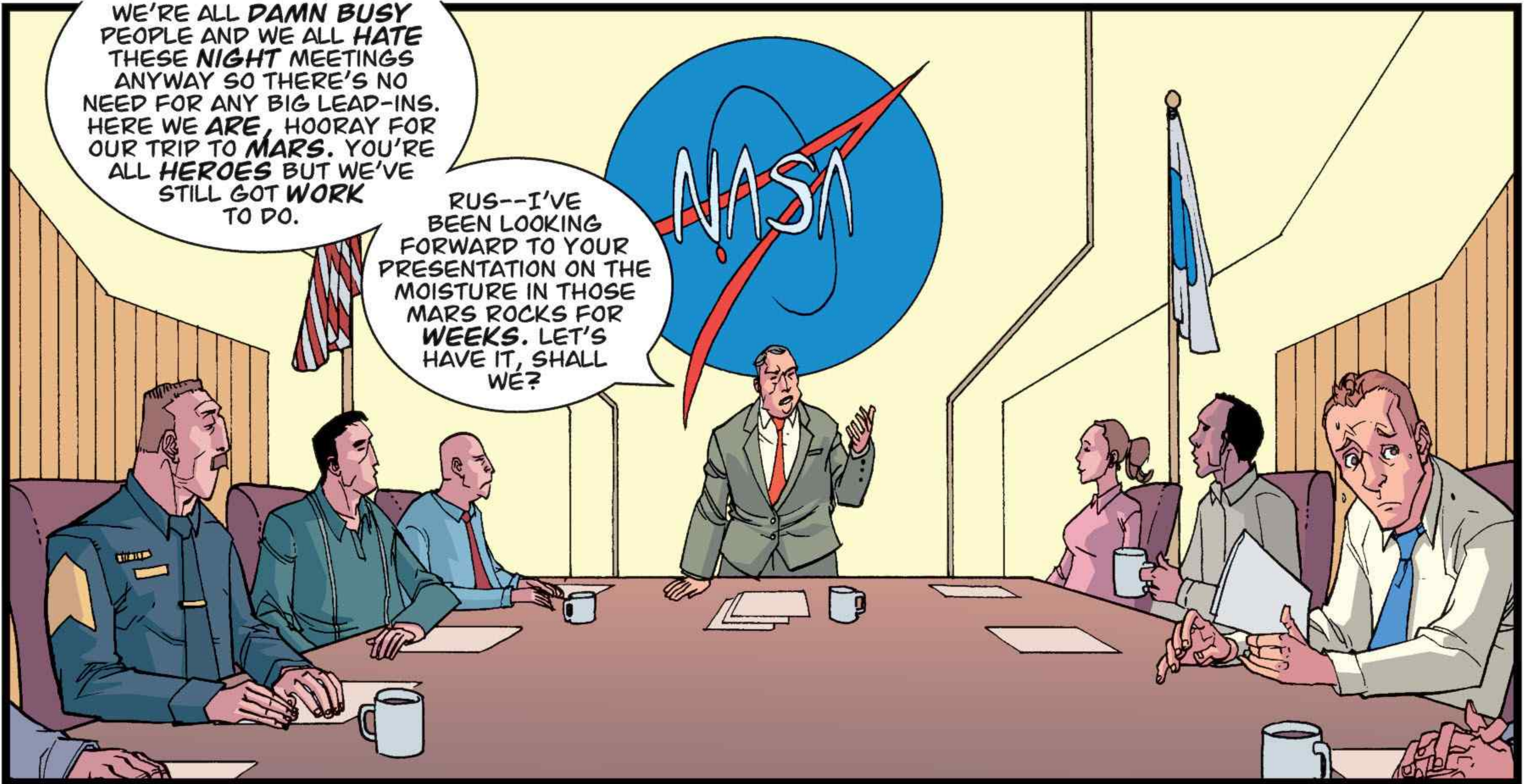


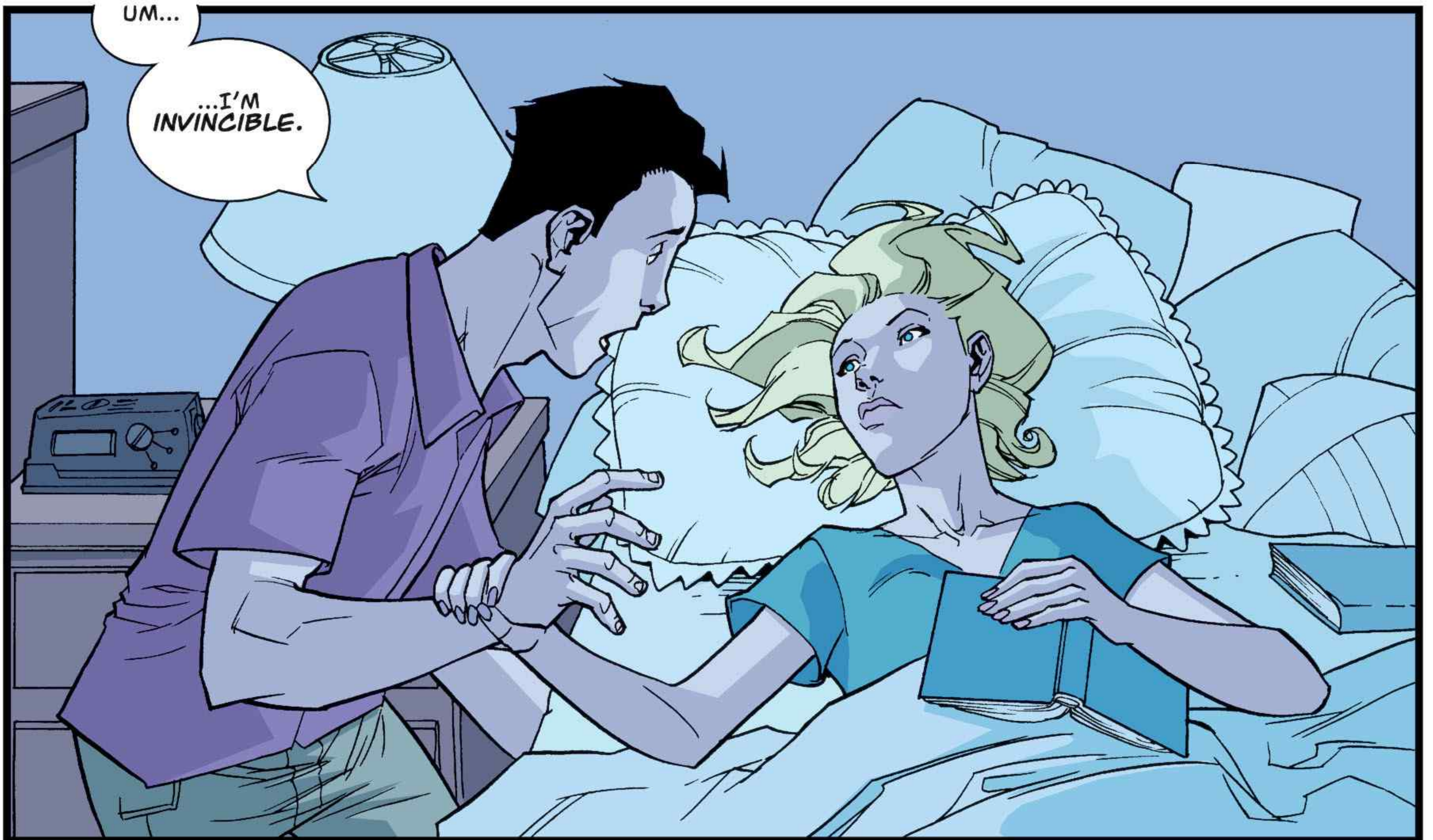
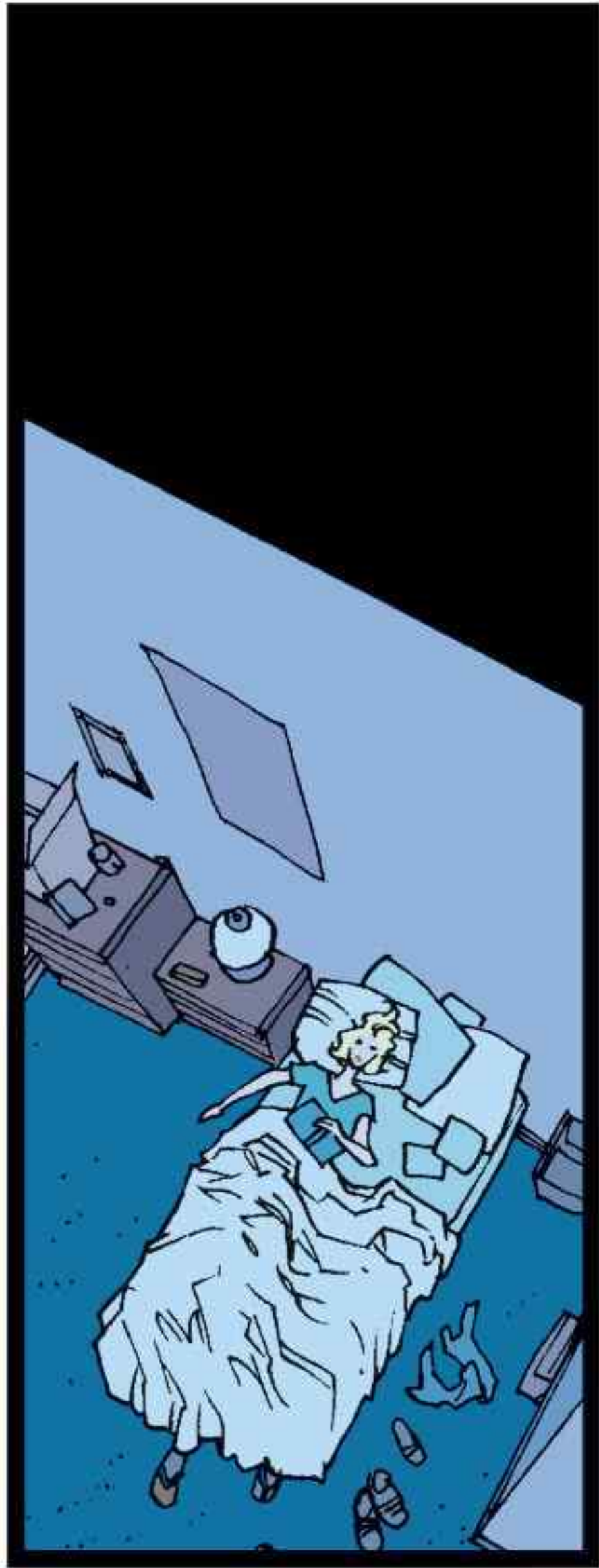
KEEP AN EYE ON IT. I WANT TO KNOW IF THERE'S A TEMPERATURE CHANGE, IF THEIR ELECTRICITY USAGE SPIKES, IF THEY SNEEZE-- I WANT TO KNOW.

WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT THEY'RE UP TO.



YES SIR.





DON'T BE *CUTE*. I'M NOT MEANING, I-CAN'T-BE-HURT "INVINCIBLE." I MEAN I'M-THE-BLUE-AND-YELLOW-GUY-FROM-TV "INVINCIBLE."



THE ONE WHO CAUGHT OUR PHYSICS TEACHER.



THE ONE WHOSE **DAD** KILLED ALL THOSE PEOPLE AND DISAPPEARED WHILE **YOUR DAD** DIED IN A CAR CRASH.



THE ONE WHO **SAVED** ME ON CAMPUS THAT DAY.



WELL?



OKAY. I'M HIM. I'M THE GUY. GOOFY GOGGLES, BIG COOL LOOKING "I" ON HIS CHEST. THAT'S ME.

I'M INVINCIBLE.

THE SUPERHERO.



SO YOU'RE NOT A DRUG DEALER.



WHAT?
NO!



YOU'RE NOT SAYING THIS TO GET OFF THE HOOK FOR ABANDONING ME ON CAMPUS ARE YOU?



NO. I'M HIM. I **SWEAR**. THAT'S WHAT I WAS GOING TO TELL YOU EARLIER TONIGHT.



PROVE IT.

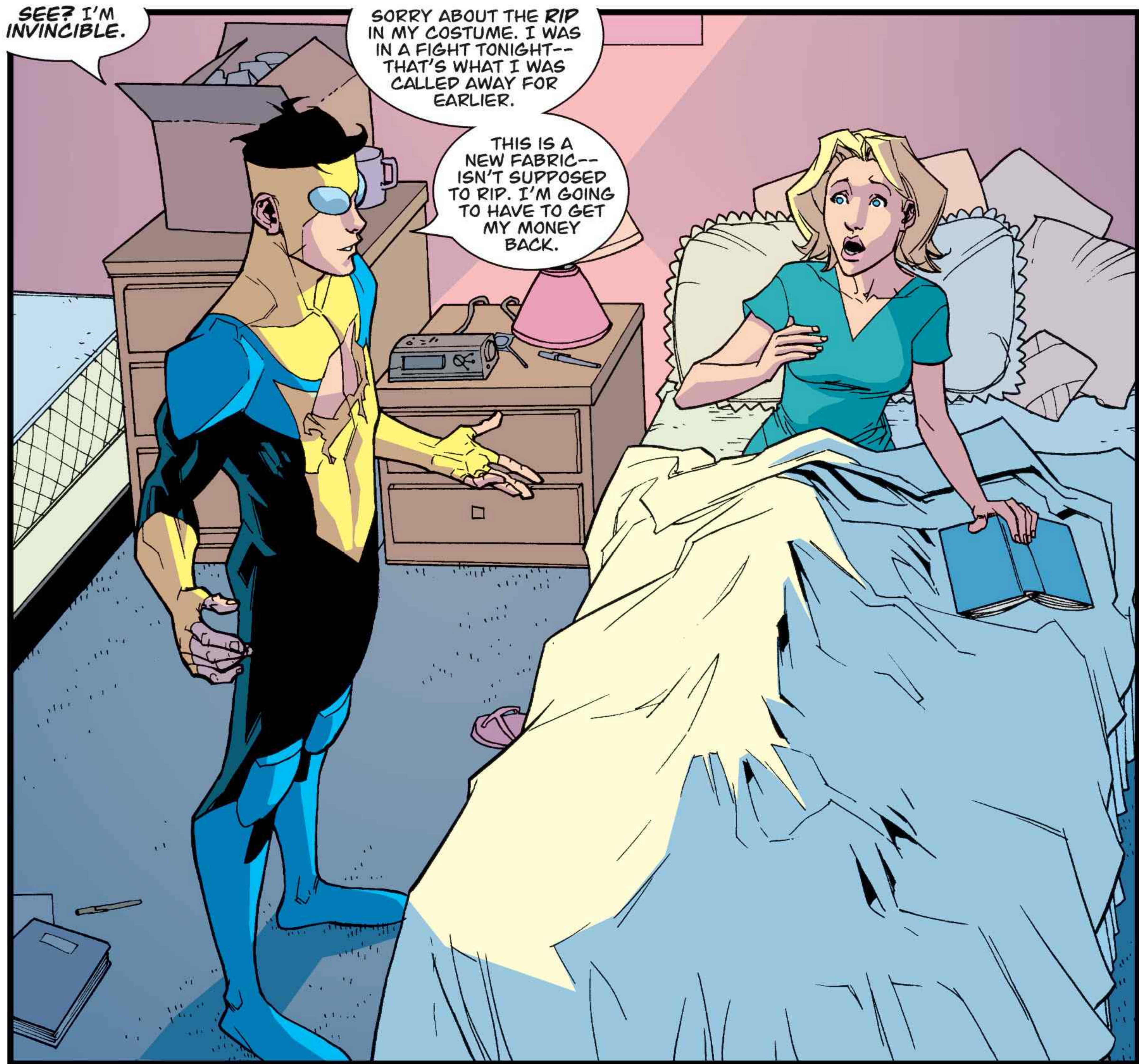
OKAY, ONE SECOND.



SEE? I'M INVINCIBLE.

SORRY ABOUT THE RIP IN MY COSTUME. I WAS IN A FIGHT TONIGHT-- THAT'S WHAT I WAS CALLED AWAY FOR EARLIER.

THIS IS A NEW FABRIC-- ISN'T SUPPOSED TO RIP. I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GET MY MONEY BACK.

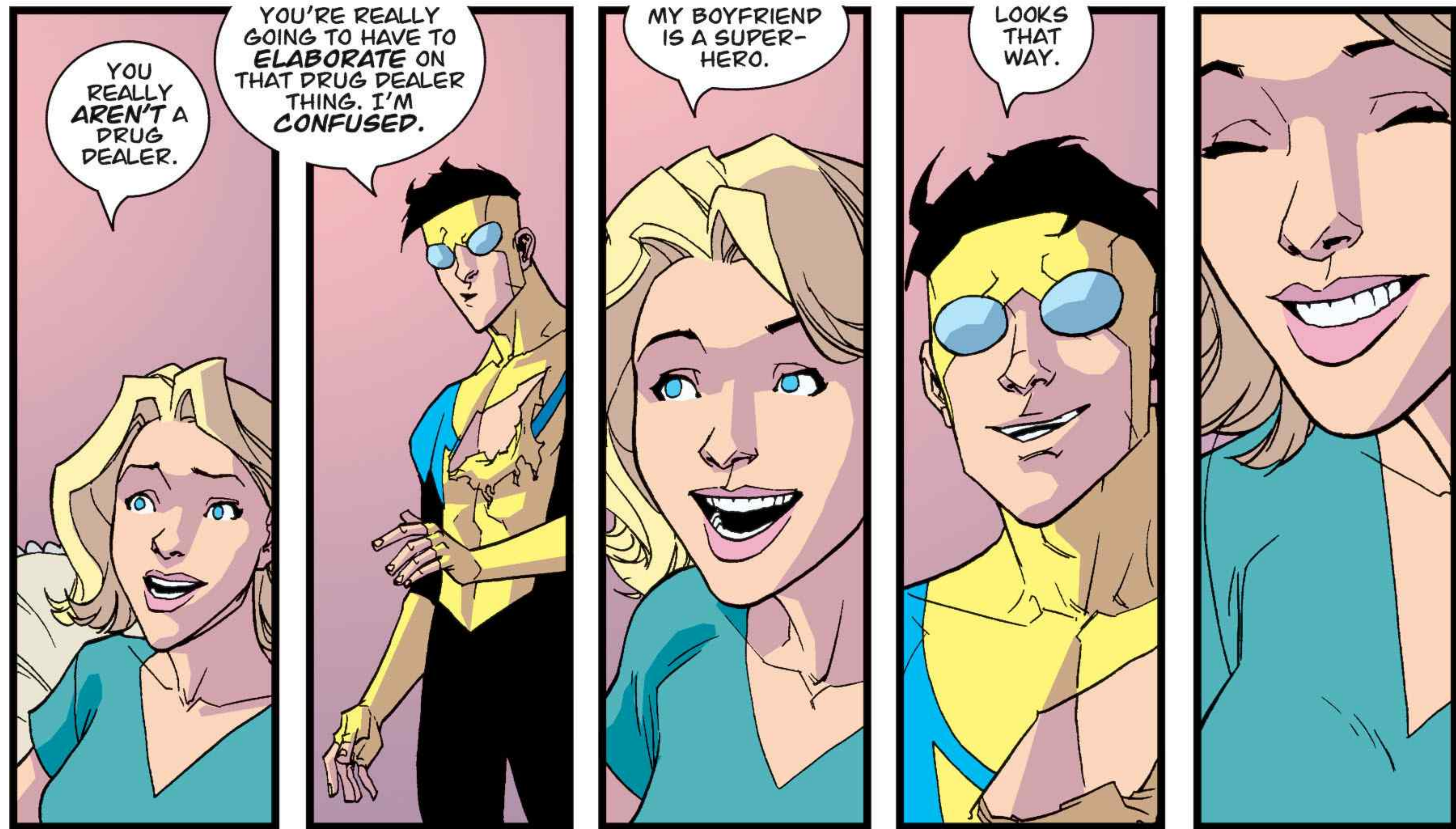


YOU REALLY AREN'T A DRUG DEALER.

YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO HAVE TO ELABORATE ON THAT DRUG DEALER THING. I'M CONFUSED.

MY BOYFRIEND IS A SUPER-HERO.

LOOKS THAT WAY.





ALONE
AT
LAST.



I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW
IT'S TAKEN MY **ENTIRE**
COLLEGE CAREER TO GET
TO THIS POINT. YOU CAN'T
RUSH **GENIUS**, OF COURSE,
BUT I WOULD HAVE
PREFERRED TO
ACHIEVE **MORE...** OF
COURSE.

DID YOU
KNOW THIS
EXPERIMENT
STARTED OUT
SIMPLY AS A WAY
TO REANIMATE
DEAD TISSUE--TO
CREATE **LIFE**
WHERE THERE
IS NONE?

I WANTED
A NOBEL PRIZE--I
WANTED TO REUNITE
GRANDMOTHERS
AND LOVED
ONES.

I
WANTED
TO DO
GOOD.

LITTLE DID
I KNOW WHAT
MY STUDIES
WOULD **LEAD** ME
TO. WHAT **DOORS**
I WOULD BLOW
OPEN WITH MY
RESEARCH.

WHERE I SOUGHT
TO CREATE **LIFE** I
SUCCEEDED IN
CREATING
DEATH.

YOU KNOW,
NEWTON,
DISCOVERED
GRAVITY BY
ACCIDENT.

WHAT I
HAVE CREATED
IS NOT MERELY
A PROCESS WITH
WHICH TO RE-
ANIMATE LIFE--
BUT IT IS THE
ULTIMATE
KILLING
MACHINE.

A WEAPON
OF WAR WITH
LIMITLESS
POTENTIAL.

NOW,
I, **P.A.**
SINCLAIR,
HAVE BUT TO
PERFECT MY
DESIGN, STREAM-
LINE IT, IMPROVE
IT--**PERFECT**
IT.

WHAT AN
HONOR IT
MUST BE FOR
YOU--TO BE
THE **FIRST**.



MY FIRST
LIVE SUBJECT
TO BE TURNED
INTO A
REANIMAN.

THE *FIRST*
IN AN *ARMY*
OF KILLING
MACHINES.

WRITE US @

INVINCIBLE
C/O FUNK-O-TRON
P.O. BOX 54386
LEXINGTON, KY 40555-4386.

INVINCIBLE@FUNKOTRON.COM

PENVINCIBLE

Big round of applause this issue for the one, the only RUS WOOTON!! Ryan and I decided to try something a little different this issue, well, I wanted to try it and he didn't complain. We crammed every page with as many panels and as much dialogue as we thought possible. I wanted to do a really dense issue, a nice "make-your-legs-fall-asleep-on-the-can" issue. Now, aside from it taking ME longer to script, and Ryan longer to draw, and maybe even Bill a LITTLE bit longer to color... I KNOW it took Rus twice as much time to letter. And you know what, it looks GREAT. See, most people don't notice lettering, but I'm a bit of a lettering junkie. I've bought pages of original art just for Chris Eliopoulos lettering. I'm crazy for the stuff. I was REALLY hesitant to bring anyone on when I discovered I just didn't have the time to letter both this and The Walking Dead. I didn't know WHO I could get, as Chris Eliopoulos and John Workman were busy... but then I saw Rus' work on his Marvel books and having known him for some years previous without knowing he lettered, I KNEW he was the guy. And he's done such a fine job since he took over, I had to call him out and say:

GREAT JOB, RUS. That's some mighty pretty lettering.

Also, make sure you pick up the big ZERO issue that'll be on sale next week (I believe). It's an origin tale, but it also fits seamlessly in-between issues 22 and 23, so you'll want to have it, and it's only FIFTY CENTS!

Oh, and in other news I assume most of you have heard about the big Paramount Pictures deal, but just in case--they've optioned the feature film rights to Invincible and hired some jerk named ME to write the screenplay. This doesn't mean the movie is in-production, and really doesn't guarantee that it ever will be, but it's a possibility. I'll keep everyone posted on whether or not things move on from here.

Now, let's answer some mail:

Penvincipals:

First of all, the scene in the dorm room took me back to my own college days in a huge way. Great job on that.

The Reanimen (sweet name, btw) and their creator sharing classes with Invincible. Sounds like too good a plot point for you guys to pass up, and this being Mark's first real chance at a nemesis, I can't wait to see the results.

This book always seems to find that perfect balance point between developing Invincible's adventures and Mark's teenage dramas, a balance all secret identity books should have but none do. What makes you so special, huh? WE DEMAND ANSWERS!!

Sincerely,
-- Ryan Walsh

We eat our Wheaties... especially Ryan, that boy puts away enough bowls to supply him with the same amount of daily vitamins and nutrients found in ONE bowl of Total.

Gentlemen,

I must tell you I was fooled at first when I picked up issue 20 of Invincible. Having never read the comic before, I thought this was your average, run of the mill superhero comic (the only reason I bought it was because I liked the artwork on the cover). I was blown out of the water when I actually read the book. It takes humor to a whole new level. Never before have I laughed out loud from reading a comic book. It feels like a mix between Smallville and Seinfeld.

Being a new reader, I have to ask you, Who came up with this idea, and what was their inspiration? Thank you very much, and keep up the good work!

-John

The concept and name came from me, the design came from a young man named Cory Walker who designed most every char-

acter and named Atom Eve and Robot. We were going for a Smallville meet's Seinfeld kind of feel.

Come on Kirkman, Robot Zombies?!? What's next, Running Zombies? What else happened in issue 20? Oh yeah, lots of lovin on the X chromosome world and that Clark Kent moment. That is, if Lois bitch-smacked Clark for runnin like a puss during a crisis. Good move man. Loved "Professor" Varner too. Reminds me of all those wonderful professors that I'm not allowed to call "mister." So here's some handy numbered questions:

1. How do scenes like Mark moving into the dorm happen? Do you plan these out for Ottely to draw or is he pullin your butt on this book with those great little moments?
2. I'm confused. What went down in GB with the "Chosen One"?
3. Who would win in a fight, Ottley or Adlard?
4. Exactly what new fabrics did Art come up with?

Alright, I wasn't printed in Issue 20 but I'll live. So what do you think about the Matrix films. I love them, but I'm one of the few. I also love duct tape. That stuff is just so handy. Till next month.

Chris Pitts

1. I think it's a little bit of both. It's all listed in the script, but how Ryan pulls it off is entirely up to him.
2. Read issue 1, issue 6, and issue 17, then issue 20 again. If you don't get it then, I can't help you.
3. I haven't see Adlard in person since 2001--they're both pretty buff--Ryan can totally take Cory--I witnessed that.
4. Hell if I know.

You can't be printed EVERY issue, man. I hated the Matrix sequels, but loved the first--and I HATE duct tape.

Penvincipals,

Issue 20 is of course another landmark issue and feather in your caps. It is also a bit ceremonial to me as well. This is the first issue I've picked off of the shelf and had to wait a whole month to read.

You see, I recently bought an issue of previews (which is a bit unheard of for me) where I saw a cool ad for an Image book I must have been overlooking for a while. Luckily I was able to pick up a few TPBs and some individaul issues from my local comic shop, The Bookery Fantasy (what a shameless plug) and was hooked! With some additional help from Khepri's website I was able to pick-up and read issues 1-19 in about two weeks and what a read indeed!

Thanks to everyone involved in the production of this book for putting the fun back in comics. It's been the funnest read since a couple of guys named Claremont and Byrne teamed up to do a book about some guys called the X-Men.

Keep up the good work, guys. Maybe I should check out the Walking Dead.....hmmmm

Kevin Hicks

Welcome aboard Kevin. Glad to have you, matey!

Hi creators, I happened upon Invincible the week it came out. I was not expecting much honestly. I was pleasantly surprised. I like Invincible. I think it is a very good comic book. I tell people that it is a very good read.

However I do have some questions.

1. Can someone who is Invincible be ticklish?

2.If the graduation hat thing is from the graduation ceromony from way-back-when, then explain the physics that would make it land at aprox. a 30 degree angle in issue #20?

3. The book needs a redheaded girl. Don't take Eve away. You only took her to a third world country to help the downtrodden and less well off so you can put her in a white tanktop and cut off shorts right?

Thanks for a fun read,
Malik.

1. You don't know the half of it.

2. Wind does crazy things to light weight objects, man. What are the odds of that thing landing exactly where Mark's trash bag landed.

3. Guilty as charged. Eve will be back.

Hey Robert & crew,

Just finished reading Invincible #20, yet another great issue! Just some little things that I liked: Angstrom Levy giving the guys a break in an all-woman dimension, the return of the Burger Mart bag (focus more on that! I was literally laughing out loud!! People were actually staring at me!! At ME!!!), and some interesting development with Atom Eve.

I would also love to congratulate you on Invincible getting picked up for a film. That is cool beyond words!!! And you're writing the screenplay? I am expecting nothing less than pure gold with this film, so you had better deliver!

Also, the news about the Invincible HC is great news. I LOVE the cover for it. Ryan really outdid himself on that one. It just goes to show you how much stuff happens in those first 13 issues...which brings me to one little nitpick I have that I believe has been mentioned before. You introduce SO many plot threads with every issue that you don't bother picking up again for at least another few issues. I'd like to see some longer arcs dealing with loose subplots to help move the story along. You've definitely given yourself enough to play around with!

One question - why on Earth is issue 12 so hard to find?? It's not at any of the comic stores I've been to, and when I finally ordered it at my LCS, it ended up being \$12. \$12!!! Sorry, man, I love your book, but not enough to pay \$12 for the one issue I'm missing. For that price I might as well just buy the third trade (which I might have to end up doing). Why is that one issue so hard to find?

Anyway, keep up the great work!
Rob Frenay

I'll see what I can do but I'm making no promises in regards to the movie. I'm telling you, all the plot threads will be dealt with, and they'll all have good payoff. A few of them set up some long form stories, y'know... "arcs" so there will be fun to be had by all when I finally get around to tying up all the loose ends. And it's your choice, man. The issue you want for \$12, or the TPB for \$12.95. Sorry the issue is so hard to find, what can I say...it's "THE BIG ONE."

Mr. Kirkman, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Ottley,

I have been reading comic books for 13 years now and have never written a note or been a fan boy for any reason (this the first time). After picking up your collected work on Invincible I am truly in awe. In a world that often lacks creativity, humor and originality thank you for crafting an amazing story with rich, developed characters that look amazing. Looking forward to picking up your book next month.

Thank You,
Than Astin

Thanks, true believer. You keep reading them and we'll keep making them. EXCELSIOR!!

Penvinipals,

I've sent in a few letters, had a couple'a them printed too, but I don't think I've congratulated the art team in any of them (I could check, but... y'know...). Well that changes now!

Invincible #20 had some fantastic art! Ryan Ottley is maybe my fav'rit penciler/inker at the moment, and Bill Crabtree's colours are amazing, he's maybe one of the only colourists i know by name! The page where the Reaniman smashed out of the floor took my breath away! And the guy who's making these Reanimen looked really slimy and greasy, sort of like a young Professor Snape, or something.

Thanks guys, you're really talented individuals, (that means you too Robert!).
John Turner

Thanks for the kind words John, for a reply I'm going to have to turn things over to artist, and resident bad ass, Ryan Ottley. Take it way, Ryan.

Dude, learn how to spell. It's hard to take your compliments seriously when I can't tell if you're foreign or if "colours" is just one of your creative "typ'os." Seriously though, thanks for the compliments but leave the typos to Robert, he's putting more than enough for everyone in these letters pages.

Ryan, jeez man... that was a little harsh. And I'm not putting in TOO many typos am I?

Dear PENvinciPALS,

First off, CONGRATULATIONS ON THE INVINCIBLE MOVIE!!

My friend and I are really big fans of Invincible and the whole gang behind it along with, improbable as it may seem, Benito and Nate. So we were relatively devastated to see that their strips won't be appearing in the back. We thought that it might have been a gag strip, so I ask, is it not actually some elaborate hoax where we think they're gone but you're all just pulling our leg? Say it ain't so! But in the end, I guess it's not really such a huge loss, and we will continue to buy the book despite their absence.

Getting back to the movie though, that is some really good news. Even better that you'll being writing it yourself, and the trade-off of the side characters for more Mark/Nolan development seems fair enough. It would be cool if you put Benito and Nate in the movie, maybe at the end of the credits with Deep Fried Monkey! Yeah, that's the ticket.

On to numbered questions!
1. What is Mark majoring in at school?
2. For that matter, what are his non-superhero career aspirations?
3. Remember when Superman would team up with celebrities like Pat Boone and Don Rickles for no reason? People need to make more of those comics. So when is Invincible going to co-star Simon Pegg, the only celebrity you know?
4. I wasn't joking about the Benito and Nate in the movie thing. How about it?

Hmm, well thats it for now. Keep up the good work.

Fans 4 lyfe,
A Gentle Handlebar and Neoteric Bone

Is this Nate's mom? Deep Fried Monkey after the credits? THAT'LL be the day!

1. General studies... he has no idea what he wants to do.
2. He hasn't decided yet. He's been a little busy.
3. Dude, I totally know... other... celebrities. I swear.
4. Mrs. Bellegarde, your money is on the dresser. Go home.

And with that slightly inappropriate bit, I bring this letters column to a close.

This month's pin-ups by:

1. Andy Smith, featuring his character First Man. Thanks Andy. Andy's got a new book coming out from Image called Armor X. I haven't had a chance to read it just yet but I'm looking forward to it. Give it a look.

2. Greg Kirkpatrick with colors by Shawn Crystal. Greg has a back-up story coming up in a future issue of Savage Dragon, but you're all already buying Dragon so I shouldn't even NEED to point out something like that.

Also in the back of this issue you'll find the second half of the Free Comic Book Day special. So there, you have it all now and I didn't even force you to buy the volume 4 TPB to get it. Of course, if you still WANT to buy it, we won't object.

Anyway, I'll see you all here next week for issue 0 and then four weeks after that for issue 23 (it's going to be a hoot!).

Until then!

-Robert Kirkman

PROBABLY THE BEST SUPERHERO COMIC BOOK IN THE UNIVERSE

INVINCIBLE™

KIRKMAN
OTTLEY

23



THE
BUILD-UP
TO ISSUE
25
BEGINS HERE!

MAY 2005

INVINCIBLE is ™ and © Robert Kirkman, 2005.
All Rights Reserved.

